

Hypotheses

Psychology

Writing a testable hypothesis, and choosing between directional and not.

Types, and when each is appropriate.

Type	States	Use when
Null	No difference or relationship	Always — it is what is tested
Alternative	There is a difference	Default
Directional (one-tailed)	Which way	Prior evidence supports a direction
Non-directional (two-tailed)	A difference, direction unstated	No prior evidence

A hypothesis must be falsifiable and must name operationalised variables. 'Music affects mood' is neither.